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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

**October 13, 2015**

**Contact:** Ted Martin, Fire Chief, 417-243-2790

### **Action taken by Branson Board of Aldermen**

**Action taken by Branson Board of Aldermen at the October 13, 2015 meeting**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA - SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE BILLS**

##### **Finance: Lease Purchase Financing**

The Board postponed the second reading of a bill approving a lease purchase agreement for a new fire engine. US Banks proposal resulted in the lowest cost of five qualified bidders with a rate of 1.723% for a five year lease.

##### **Fire: New Fire Engine**

The Board postponed the second reading of a bill approving the purchase of a new KME Fire Engine from Jon's Mid-America Fire Apparatus. This new rescue-engine will be designed to focus on firefighter safety, current staffing levels, and will increase the fire department's rescue capabilities. The purchase price of this new engine is \$605,747.

##### **Engineering: Contract Amendment for Electrical Service Work**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving a contract amendment for electrical service work provided by Bill's Electric, Inc. This amendment will provide funding to improve electrical safety at the City's Recycle Center and light replacement on the soccer fields located at the RecPlex.

##### **Engineering: Pavement Assessment Program**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving an agreement with Infrastructure Management Services. IMS will travel all city streets in a specialized vehicle containing camera and lasers to analyze the surface of the roadways, cracking and any deterioration. The results will assist the Engineering Department in accurately determining a plan for city street improvements.

##### **Parks: Parking Lot Sealing and Striping at the RecPlex**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving a proposal from Springfield Sealing Services for sealing and striping of the parking lots at the Branson RecPlex.

**Info Technology: Fiber Optic Cabling Project**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving a proposal to install fiber optic cable designed to improve data connectivity between City Hall and the Branson Convention Center. Fiber will be installed in the Downtown Revitalization Project for street light service. Fiber will also be installed for service to a new Utilities Department Maintenance & Operations Building.

**Utilities: Pre-Annexation Agreement**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill accepting a petition for consent to annex residential property at 1194 Bird Road. This annexation will include one single family residence within 2.462 acres. This property is contiguous to the existing city limits.

**Administration: Factory Merchants Mall Buildings Sale to Ball Parks of Branson, LLC**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving an ordinance to sell all buildings on the property known as the Factory Merchants Mall to Ball Parks of Branson, LLC. These buildings have been declared surplus property. This agreement will assist with project financing for the developers desire to build five ball fields, on-site dormitory lodging for up to 48 teams plus retail space. The City will continue to own the property. The bill did pass with an amendment.

**Administration: Lease Agreement Amendment**

The Board approved the second reading of a bill approving a lease amendment with Ball Parks of Branson, LLC. This amendment eliminates percentage rent from subtenants, extension of terms by one year, and commitment to payment of taxes. The bill did pass with an amendment.

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS (1<sup>st</sup> Readings and public hearings)****Administration: Resolution for Assignment of Lease**

The Board approved a resolution consenting to the Assignment of Lease from Ballparks of Branson, LLC to Cedar Rapids Bank and Trust.

**HR: LAGERS Delegates**

The Board approved a resolution certifying two voting delegates to the annual LAGERS Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri on October 29 & 30. Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS) requires two representatives from the Governing Body. Human Resource Manager John Butler will be the “Employer Delegate.” Utilities Office Specialist Loretta Bishop, voted on by the City Employees, will serve as the “Member Delegate,” both with Board approval.

**P & Z: Special Event for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Branson Turkey Trot**

The Board approved a resolution approving a Special Events Application for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Trot sponsored by the Ozarks Running Club. This event will be held on November 26, 2015. This race originates at the Branson Landing, though the City Campground and into the residential streets of Lake Drive and Christopher Street.

**Finance: Carriage Stand Permit**

This item was removed from the agenda as the Applicant has removed their request to obtain a business license.

### **Update on Branson Public Schools**

Branson Superintendent Dr. Doug Hayter addressed the Board with an update on the School District. Dr. Hayter covered topics including the current Board of Education and their commitment to the District including their work to earn the MSBA Board of Education Team Governance Award. He shared current statistics from the district including a current student population of 4,796 students and the various demographics they represent in our community. Dr. Hayter shared updates on several ballot initiatives that have helped the District provide great facilities for the students. Dr. Brad Swofford was introduced as the next Superintendent as he will promote at the first of the year when Dr. Hayter retires. Dr. Swofford shared the District's current strategic plan and the positive direction it is headed, especially in hiring and maintaining great teachers. Dr. Hayter concluded by thanking the Board of Aldermen for their support and how proud he is of the School District and their commitment to fulfilling their mission statement of "*A Community Committed to Learning!*"

### **Report on Branson Housing Authority**

Branson Housing Authority Executive Director Barbara Edelman addressed the Board with an update. She shared the current status of the Housing Authority including tenant age requirements of 62 or greater, and or disabled, with an income of \$28,100 for a single individual or \$32,100 for a married couple. There are 40 units occupied (Full) with a waiting list of over 40 applicants. Ms. Edelman shared the status of the budget, specifically income from grant funding. For example, the City provides a \$10,000 grant this fiscal year to the Housing Authority. She concluding by stating they continue to make updates as funds allow to the building constructed in the 1970's. Most of these updates have been energy efficiency focused such as window replacement, siding replacement, new air conditioning units, and light fixtures. She concluded by thanking the Board and the City for their continued support of the Housing Authority.

### **P & Z: Annexation of Property at 1194 Bird Road**

The Board held a public hearing and approved the first reading a bill approving annexation of property located at 1194 Bird Road. The property is contiguous with existing city limits.

### **Utilities: Monthly Water and Sewer Rates**

The Board held a public hearing and approved the first reading of a bill amending the City's monthly water and sewer rates. The Utilities Department recommended a 9% rate adjustment for water and 7% rate adjustment for sewer. This will assist the department in sustaining operations, maintenance, operational capital items and maintain operating reserves. With these rate adjustments, Branson's water and sewer rates are still among the lowest in the State of Missouri.

### **Utilities: System Connection Charges**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving a new System Connection Charge Process. This process allows new customers and developments connecting to the City's water and sewer system to pay an equitable, balanced and consistent connection charge based on operating capacity of their water meter. The new connection charges will become effective January 1, 2016.

### **Utilities: Pre-annexation agreement for 325 Mesquite Drive**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving a pre-annexation agreement with Asher Holdings, LLC who owns property at 325 Mesquite Drive in the Horizon Hills Subdivision. The owner proposes construction of a new single-family home on the property and desires City sewer services.

**Utilities: Replacement Pumps**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill pertaining to the purchase of replacement pumps for Lift Station 38 and the Compton Drive Lift Station. The pumps will be purchased from JCI Industries for \$6,079 each.

**Engineering: Recycling Contract with Greenway Recycling**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving a contract renewal with Greenway Recycling pertaining to the transport and marketing of recyclable materials from the Branson Recycle Center.

**Engineering: Highway 76 Promenade Design at 1420 West State Highway 76**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving a Memorandum of Understanding for the design and construction of the Highway 76 Promenade with Summer Bay Partnership located at 1420 W. State Highway 76. This MOU provides a new access for customers at the Crown Club Inn to the Fall Creek and Highway 76 intersection at the City's Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area with the applicant working in a cooperative effort to make improvements to the entrance to the City Park.

**Engineering: Complete Streets Project – Labor and Materials Reimbursement**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill approving a labor and materials reimbursement agreement between Fogle Enterprises, Inc., and the City relating to the 76 Country Boulevard Complete Streets Project. The estimated cost of this work is \$530,000 and will be completed near the new CiCi's Restaurant.

**Parks: New Concrete Pads for Campers at the City Campground**

The Board approved the first reading of a bill accepting the proposal of Table Rock Asphalt Construction Company, Inc., pertaining to the concrete pads at the City Campground. The proposal provides funding for 20 new concrete pads for recreational vehicles, completing a five year plan of upgrading the campground sites from a gravel base to concrete. The contract amount is \$24,244.00.

**APPOINTMENTS**

The Mayor with Board approval appointed:

OCAC Board – Cindy Shook

Branson Hills Community Infrastructure District Board – Kelly Watts, Pat Joyce, and Tracy Bistro

*(Background materials on all agenda items, including audio of the entire Board of Aldermen meeting can be accessed by going to [www.bransonmo.gov](http://www.bransonmo.gov) and clicking on the “Agendas & Minutes” button on the right side of the website homepage.)*